that absence from that class would be met with this sort of punishment. You may send for information and take the necessary action.

Mr. I. N. Menon:—If the authorities had the slightest apprehension of trouble, they would have reported to me or if any of the guardians of the students had the slightest apprehension I am here and they could have come to me.

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon:—A word of explanation, Sir. That particular gentleman did not go to me to bring this matter to my notice at all. He did not see me as a member of this Council.

President:—I am sure the Hon'ble Director will be pleased to make the statement. If necessary this will be taken up tomorrow.

Mr. I. N. Menon:—I shall make the statement today itself.

Motion allowed to stand over.

Supplementary Grants *(Cont.)*.

30-5-F. Government Industrial Schools *(Cont.)*

Mr. Joseph Pettah:—Sir, I thank the Chair for the privilege given to me to reply to the debate.

President:—It is your due.

Mr. Joseph Pettah:—I am also very thankful to the Hon'ble Member for Industries for the very sympathetic way in which he has looked on the question and I would not have felt the need to add any more words but for the few remarks that were made on this side of the House by a few Hon'ble Members who seem to think that the proper thing would be not to do anything for these cottage industries, but to embark upon a state industrialisation policy forthwith. My purpose is not to enter upon a criticism of this State Industrial Policy or anything of that kind; but I am afraid that there is some confusion of thought in the minds of some of the Hon'ble Members as also there is elsewhere, that these cottage industries are to some extent antagonistic to or are the victim of the competition of mill industries.

Now, my purpose is only to point out that these industries can be developed and the competition from mill industries would not affect them so that there is a special field for them. Also on very many occasions when we have been presenting this case in this House, the question was asked from the other side whether we have anything definite to point out how or in what manner the thing could be done. As for the various directions in which the thing could be done, the Hon'ble Member for Chittur yesterday pointed out a few directions and at the same time he added that

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the Government were in a better position with the facilities at their command to have an exhaustive catalogue of the various cottage industries in the State, and I am glad that I was given to understand this morning by the authorities in charge of this particular matter that they had already gone into this matter to some extent and that they had considered the case of various cottage industries here. All the same there seems to be some misapprehension among the various Members of this House whether we have any number of cottage industries which deserve protection and encouragement at the hands of the Government and which if protected so, could have a bright future. I was just thinking in this line last night and I have noted down a few points which, with your kind permission, I shall place before the House.

The first thing that struck me was in the direction of textiles. Many of you are familiar with the *kasavu kavini* and the various other things which we get from Irennial, Tanjore, Salem and other parts which are all the products of cottage industries. Surely, there is no reason why we should not develop this industry here.

Again, the ordinary handloom weaving is a flourishing industry or at any rate, can be made a flourishing industry if proper encouragement is given to it. There is a good deal of sale for the ordinary things as our "ഉരിഞ്ഞ", "പുളിയിലക്കരയൻ", "ബാലരാമപുരം" and such other things. The difficulty with them, Sir, is this: they can make these things, but when it is a matter of marketting they find it difficult. One week they spend in making these things and the next week is spent in marketting; and as a matter of actual experience—I have had actual experience in the matter—when they find it impossible to market these things they go to some big merchant in the town and sell at a heavy commission charge, whereby they get very little profit. That is a very serious discouragement in this line.

Again, there is a very large scope in the direction of making such articles as lace, frills, embroidery works, socks and stocking. In this case we find that a few ordinary machines may be required, some knitting machines and one or two singer machines. It is matter of ordinary experience that a properly equipped singer machine could help you a good deal in the matter of ordinary cheap embroidery work and with a knitting machine also we might make large quantities of socks and stockings. All these things are done in cottages; and in the western countries, ribbons, lace, frills are all made by cottage industries. These things could not be done in these machines. So, there is a large field for the development of these industries.

Government have some time ago made some experiments; but I think perhaps these experiments were not made in the right lines.

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Then yarn-making could be managed successfully, though in the matter of weaving we may not be able to compete with mill industries elsewhere.

Then again pen-knives, grass-cutters and small agricultural machinery. Here some small capital would be required. In the matter of sale also, some propaganda is required. For example, buckets made locally. Till the other day in the Trichur market we used to get buckets made locally. But now the Calcutta buckets are dumped on the market and they are made in Calcutta as a cottage industry. They are not mill-made. But they are made in superior fashion which our people could not attain here for want of sufficient encouragement.

Again, in the matter of iron and steel trunks, we get large quantities from Madras. Iron and steel trunks are the products of cottage industry. They could be done here also. I understand that even in a place like Edappilli which is close-by to Ernakulam these iron trunks are made. But I don't find anywhere in Cochin that an attempt is made to manufacture iron trunks.

Then there are various kinds of dolls, toys, paper lamps and other artistic and decorative works which, once again I say is all the work of cottage industry.

Then there is the case of furniture. If you go to Rattan Bazaar in Madras, you will find a number of articles of rattan works, tiffin carriers, trunks, cradles, even chairs and tables and so on—all so beautifully made that even people from Cochin buy these things from Madras and take to Ernakulam or Trichur. All of them are products of cottage industries.

Then cabinet-making and furniture. If you walk through the roads of Ernakulam or Trichur, you will come across a few workshops making beautiful articles; and with the abundant supply of timber from our forests, I am sure this will be a flourishing industry. I am sure there is every possibility for the development of these industries if proper encouragement could be given by the Government. They have got the necessary workmanship. If they are given some encouragement by way of capital, they could do most of these works themselves.

Then again, the various industries connected with coir and fibre are too well-known to deserve any special mention at my hands.

Then masonry bricks and superior kinds of pottery. When I was at Mangalore I saw superior kinds of potteries all locally made which could very well compete with crockeries from outside and yet we have here in Cochin nothing of the sort.

Various leatherworks. If you just take a walk in Trichur you will find that leather articles are even now produced. But

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when it is a case of superior articles, they have to get down from Madras. There it is a cottage industry.

Then preserves—jams, jellies fruit crushes and various pickles. With the large supply of fruits that we have—mangoes of a hundred varieties, rose-berries, guavas, etc.,—we can very well carry on this industry. But one difficulty is there. We could make the thing, but the canning is the difficult process. For that a central factory would be necessary. That is how they do it in Denmark. All kinds of preserves are made in cottages. But there are certain operations which can be done only by factories. So far as this part is concerned, help is given by Government by instituting a central factory. Here, again the argument is that with sufficient Government encouragement and help these industries could be developed, so that they could make not only the ordinary kind but also the superior varieties that we are buying from other countries.

Hair oils and cosmetics are made in North India. I had occasion to be in North India a couple of years back and I came across hair oils and I was told by reliable authorities that these were all cottage industry products, very often mostly made of cocoanut oil. We are here producing cocoanut oil but could not produce any of these things.

Again, look at the sporting materials—Tennis rackets, bats and balls and other things. We get all these from Sialkot in the Punjab. There again they are all the products of cottage industries. When you hear of companies, don't think that they are actually making these things. They are stocking companies.

I don't want to multiply examples, because it is a sufficiently large list. If anybody is not even now convinced of the large possibilities that we have, I would recommend to him just to visit one or two industrial fairs in Madras and then take a list of articles that are there—articles which are the products of cottage industries and for the production of which there are ample facilities in our State.

Now, Sir, since we have got an abundant supply of raw materials, if you give proper encouragement, I am sure there is a bright future for our cottage industries. What the Government could do in this matter is evidently the further question. I say that in very many cases it is additional capital that is required. Government can give them secured loans or they can even give bounties. That is how the Government of India have been encouraging some of these industries. We can afford even to sacrifice even supposing that some of these industries may not flourish. Even then money spent in that direction would not be money lost, because if out of 10 experiments only 7 turn out to be successful

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that will be a great asset. Again, we have to make proper arrangements to train up persons in the artistic and decorative works, etc. Some people would have to be trained up so that they may train up the necessary workers here. We will have to send people to other places also, so that we may have an idea of the work.

The third thing is we have to organise markets and that is perhaps the most important thing. Consolidated effort, I am sure, will be successful in this line. How many of these trade agents and canvassing agents visit Malabar from other parts of India? Though you will find Malayalies in other parts of India from cooks to Collectors you don't find in the field of trade any of these travelling or canvassing agents. They are very few. In commerce we seem to be rather shy and the reason is, I think, that the commercial initiative of our Governments including Cochin is rather small.

One word more and I am finished and that is, when we appoint an expert or experts in this matter; we have to bear in mind one point. We have to develop various kinds of industries and any one expert in any particular industry would not serve our purpose, except for that particular industry. In matters industrial, the general organiser of industries has to be a man of some general culture who knows something of the economic condition of the market, where necessary labour could be had, where markets could be expected and such other general and wider questions of commercial development of a nation. That must be the accomplishment of the man who has to be in charge of such an important branch of public utility. Under him it would be necessary that we should have small experts in each particular line. For instance making of grass-mats. They are so beautifully made in Travancore, but so little made here in Cochin. If you go to Vaikathashtami or Trichur Pooram, you will find fine mats made in Travancore. Is there any single mat of that sort made in Cochin, I ask. You will find none. If we have conditions similar to those in Travancore, why not we develop that industry. Then I say small experts should be appointed in each particular line; but at the head of all, there must be a man with wider outlook who knows the markets, the raw materials necessary, labour and such other things. Believing that the Government will be taking into consideration these points also when it is a question of giving effect to the suggestions that we have made on the floor of this House, I resume my seat. Because the Member is absent, it is not left to me to press or withdraw.

President:— You can withdraw it.

Motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

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Motion No. II.

Mr. Joseph Pettah:– *To reduce the allotment by Re. 1. The necessity of devising a Scheme of developing cottage industries in coir and similar materials along with the spreading of industrial education*

The motion was not moved and hence considered withdrawn.

Demand put and carried.

15. 11—B–Law and Justice—Munsiff's Court–Cranganur—Rs. 432.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran:— Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 432 under 11—B—Law and Justice—Munsiff's Court—Cranganur. From the circulated note it can be found that the work in the Cranganur Munsiff's court having increased considerably, sanction was accorded to entertain, as a temporary measure, an additional staff of one clerk on Rs. 25—40 and one Amin on Rs. 20 a month. There is no provision in the current year's budget to meet the expenses in respect of the pay of this additional staff. This expenditure, of course, could not be anticipated. The pressure of work was felt during course of the year. I therefore pray that this grant may be sanctioned.

Demand put and carried.

16. Transfer from Assistant Surgeon to Dietary Charges—Cranganur—Rs. 200.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao:— Sir, I rise to move for a transfer of allotment of Rs. 200 from 'Assistant Surgeon' to 'Dietary Charges —Cranganur'

Demand put and carried.

17. Transfer from 'Assistant Surgeon' to 'Miscellaneous'—Cranganur—Rs. 100.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao:— Sir, I rise to move for a transfer of allotment of Rs. 100 from 'Assistant Surgeon' to 'Miscellaneous' —Cranganur.

Demand put and carried.

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